

Jordan, Egypt resume trade relations

CAIRO (R) — Egypt and Jordan Thursday formally announced the resumption of trade relations, four years after an Arab summit severed all links with Egypt for signing a treaty with Israel. Officials said the trade agreement stipulates the restoration of the 1978 protocol under which Egypt sold Jordan rice, onions, potatoes, peanuts, cotton and textiles and imported leather, woolen clothes and batteries. The agreement was signed by Mohammad Saleh Hourani, under-secretary in the Jordanian trade ministry, and his Egyptian counterpart Ahmad Wafei.

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Palestinian leaders hail Jordan's move

AMMAN (J.T.) — Leading Palestinian personalities have sent a cable to His Majesty King Hussein expressing their "full support of the wise statement recently issued by the cabinet," Al Ra'i newspaper reported Friday. The cable said: "We affirm our commitment to the ties of brotherhood, nationalism and joint interests linking the Jordanian and Palestinian people, who form one united family." The cable appealed to the King to continue his efforts to save the occupied Arab territories and its residents from Israel's occupation. Al Ra'i said.

Hassan condoles Sartawi family

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Thursday visited the Sartawi family home to present his condolences on the death of Issam Sartawi, the Palestinian leader assassinated in Portugal last Sunday.

Callaghan, Heath arrive Sunday

AMMAN (J.T.) — Former British prime ministers James Callaghan and Edward Heath will arrive in Amman Sunday, the British embassy said Friday. It said that Mr. Callaghan will deliver a lecture on the European Community at the Chamber of Industries on Sunday. Mr. Heath, who is on a short private visit, will confer with a number of senior Jordanian officials and tour some of the archaeological sites in Jordan, the embassy said.

Israeli soldiers ambushed near Tyre

BEIRUT (R) — The Palestine news agency WAFA said Friday that Lebanese commandos ambushed an Israeli bus near the South Lebanese city of Tyre Thursday, killing or wounding between 15 and 20 Israeli soldiers. In a report monitored in Nicosia, WAFA said the commandos belonged to the "Lebanese National Resistance Front," which had claimed responsibility for similar attacks on Israeli forces in Lebanon.

Israel protests Arafat's Sweden visit

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel protested to Sweden Friday over the visit by Palestine Liberation Organisation leader Yasser Arafat to Stockholm this week, the Israeli foreign ministry said. Minister Director David Kimche handed Swedish Ambassador Torsten Orn a protest expressing Israel's "dismay and displeasure" at the visit, a spokesman said.

Jerusalem Committee meeting postponed

BAHRAIN (R) — A meeting of the Jerusalem Committee scheduled to take place in Rabat on Monday has been postponed, the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) announced Thursday. In a statement issued at its Jeddah headquarters and carried by the Saudi Press Agency King Hassan of Morocco asked for the postponement so the meeting would coincide with a projected Arab summit scheduled for early May.

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PLO leaders delay urgent Tunis meeting

TUNIS (Agencies) — A Palestinian leadership meeting set for Tunis this weekend to discuss ways of resuming talks with Jordan on a common Middle East peace approach has been put off at least until Wednesday, Palestinian sources said Friday.

The meeting of all commando group leaders and members of the 14-strong Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Executive Committee was originally due open Thursday.

But it was put off when PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat left on an official visit to Bulgaria Thursday night.

The sources said he would remain there over the weekend and the meeting would not convene until at least Wednesday.

Leaders of the various PLO groups, including Mr. Arafat's own Fatah movement, were holding separate meetings in Tunis and Damascus to prepare for what seemed to be developing into a confrontation between factions in the PLO, the sources added.

The PLO leadership was summoned to Tunis after Jordan last Sunday broke off a six-month dialogue with the PLO aimed at settling the terms of the Jordan's participation in U.S.-sponsored negotiations on the future of the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

President Reagan called last September for Palestinian self-rule in association with Jordan in plan.

Egypt calls for increased U.S. pressure on Israel

CAIRO (R) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak has called on President Reagan to increase pressure on Israel to withdraw from Lebanon and stop building new settlements on the West Bank, the semi-official Al Ahram newspaper reported Friday.

"These steps should be taken to boost the chances of an agreement between King Hussein of Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) on a mandate for King Hussein to speak for the Palestinians in peace negotiations."

Italy deplores Sartawi murder

AMMAN (J.T.) — Italy has strongly deplored the assassination of moderate Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Issam Sartawi, who was gunned down in Portugal last Sunday.

A communiqué issued by the Italian embassy in Amman Thursday said: "The Italian Ministry for Foreign Affairs deeply deplores the cowardly assassination of a leading figure of the PLO, known for his moderate position and favourable to a dialogue with Israel. This crime which has taken place on the occasion of a reunion of the Socialist International is evidently intended to strike at the ties between the PLO

Kreisky: Israel is one of biggest troublemakers

VIENNA (R) — Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky Friday described Israel as one of the world's biggest troublemakers and said Israeli government policy was playing into the hands of Arab radicals.

The chancellor, a non-practising Jew and campaigner for Middle East peace since the early 1970s, told a news conference the position of moderates within the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) was getting weaker because they had failed to get any response to their calls for negotiations.

"The Israeli government is playing into the hands of all the radical Arabs within and outside the PLO because they refuse negotiations as much as the Arabs do," he said.

Mr. Kreisky added that PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat and other PLO members had so far failed to win help in trying to find a way to get some sort of talks started. "The less successful they are, the weaker their position will be," he said.

"It must be clear to everybody that Israel is one of the biggest troublemakers in the world," he said.

"It's a true militaristic country, but its militarism has not been crowned by success, proof of which is the fact that (last year's) Lebanon war has not helped them in the least."

Mr. Kreisky organised three fact-finding missions to the Middle East in the early 1970s as part of an attempt by the Socialist International to seek a settlement in the Arab-Israel conflict.

He has been extremely critical of Israeli government policies, and advocates the establishment of an independent Palestinian state on Israeli-occupied territory.

U.S. links arms sales to Jordan with commitment to peace talks

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — A House of Representatives foreign affairs subcommittee has voted to link the sale of advanced military weapons to Jordan and Jordan's commitment to join U.S.-sponsored talks for Middle East peace.

Jordan has not formally requested the sale of U.S. arms to the Kingdom, but the house committee also approved \$115 million in military aid to Jordan.

The move would prohibit the use of U.S. foreign military sale guarantees by Jordan to purchase certain advanced weapons until

President Reagan certifies to Congress that Jordan is public committed to the recognition of Israel and to prompt entry into direct peace negotiations with Israel under the basic tenets of United Nations Security Council resolutions 242 and 338 and the Camp David accords.

Among the items which could not be sold to Jordan under provisions of the amendment are F-5G, F-14, F-16, F-18 and F-20 aircraft, mobile anti-aircraft systems and a variety of air-to-air missiles.

The amendment, introduced by

Europe and Middle East Subcommittee Chairman Lee Hamilton, was approved Wednesday by the subcommittee in a 6-4 vote.

Aid to Israel increased

During the same session, subcommittee members in a voice vote recommended increasing grants to Israel by \$365 million more than had been requested by the Reagan administration.

The proposed increase includes \$300 million in foreign military sales grants and \$65 million in economic support grants.

Shultz may visit Mideast

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — President Ronald Reagan and Secretary of State George Shultz are considering whether the time is appropriate for the secretary to make a trip to the Middle East, the State Department said Thursday.

State Department Spokesman John Hughes said that no decision on such a trip has been taken yet, but he said that Mr. Shultz told a news conference on April 12 that he will go to the Middle East "at an appropriate time."

U.S. officials say there is a possibility that Mr. Shultz may fly to the area late this month and if he does, his trip could involve extensive travel in the Middle East.

At a news briefing in Washington on Thursday, Mr. Hughes also appealed directly to Arab leaders to support the entry of Jordan into peace negotiations with Israel.

"We can't outline how the Arabs will go about whatever deliberations they may have," he said. "But we think there has been enough talk."

"Above all, we must avoid giving the impression that we do not understand the real risks he (King Hussein) is running or that we might not support him in facing these risks," Mr. Hughes said.

Gunmen threaten Palestinian refugees living in S. Lebanon

BEIRUT (R) — Masked gunmen told 150 Palestinian squatter families this week to quit their homes in the southern Lebanese city of Sidon, the United Nations agency which looks after Palestinian refugees said Friday.

John Detrates, local head of the U.N. Relief and Works Agency for Palestine refugees (UNRWA), said the families were threatened

with force if they did not leave within four days.

The incident on Tuesday was the latest in a series of cases of harassment of Palestinian refugees in Israeli-occupied southern Lebanon. Last month, 69 families were forced to leave Sidon and go to other cities, Mr. Detrates said in Beirut.

Eagleburger stresses U.S. commitment to Reagan plan

TUNIS (R) — The United States Friday informed the Arab League that President Reagan stood by his Middle East peace plan announced last September, the Tunisian news agency reported.

President Reagan's plan calls for Palestinian self-rule in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip in association with Jordan.

The Reagan plan remains the best tool to restore peace in the Middle East, U.S. Under-Secretary of State for Political Affairs Lawrence Eagleburger said here Friday after meeting

Arab League Secretary-General Chadli Klibi.

The United States, Mr. Eagleburger said, is still committed to a lasting peace settlement that would take into account both legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and those of Israel to security.

Mr. Eagleburger earlier handed a message from President Reagan to President Habib Bourguiba. On Thursday he met Tunisian prime, foreign and defence ministers. He is on a three-day visit to Tunisia after a similar visit to Algeria.

White House denies reported Reagan remarks on re-election

WASHINGTON (R) — The White House Friday angrily denied that President Reagan had written off the Jewish vote because of his Middle East policy and had decided he could be re-elected without it.

A Wall Street Journal report Thursday said Mr. Reagan, seeking support from Jordan in stalled Middle East peace efforts, had told King Hussein he knew he would lose the Jewish vote if he sought re-election in 1984 but felt he could win without it.

White House Deputy Press Secretary Larry Speakes said the report was totally false and had appealed the president, for whom such a statement would be totally out of character.

Mr. Reagan has been criticised by some U.S. Jewish leaders for following a Middle East policy rejected by Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin and now complicated by Jordan's decision last weekend not to enter talks with

The newspaper report was partly responsible for a decision by California businessman Albert Spiegel, a long-time Reagan supporter, to leave his unofficial post Thursday as a presidential adviser on Jewish community affairs.

The White House said he left because he wanted to devote more time to his private affairs. Mr. Spiegel told reporters his departure was linked in part with the views attributed to Mr. Reagan.

White House officials denied another part of the newspaper report which said the president indicated he would stand for re-election next year by telling King Hussein that "we'll be partners for the next six years."

Mr. Reagan, who has almost two years left of his current term, has not announced his plans for 1984, although senior White House officials say they believe he will seek a second four-year term.

The White House sources had so far failed to win help in trying to find a way to get some sort of talks started. "The less successful they are, the weaker their position will be," he said.

He has been extremely critical of Israeli government policies, and advocates the establishment of an independent Palestinian state on Israeli-occupied territory.

Israeli Labour Party opposes new settlement

TEL AVIV (R) — Opposition Labour Party leader Friday condemned Israeli government plans for a new settlement in the heartland of the occupied Arab West Bank and demanded a special Knesset (parliament) session to debate the issue.

Party Chairman Shimon Peres told a press conference the plan to convert a military outpost on a hilltop outside Nablus to a civilian settlement next Monday, which is Israel's independence day, was an historical mistake.

Ministers from the eight states gave up after three days of trying to persuade Baghdad and Tehran to let workmen cap wells in an Iranian field in a Gulf war zone, delegates said.

Iraqi ambassador to Kuwait Abdul Jabbar Oman Ghani said: "Consultations have reached a dead-end because of Iranian stubbornness. Iraq has made concessions but they (the Iranians) have not responded."

Iranian ambassador to Kuwait Ali Shams Ardekanli told reporters the talks had foundered because Baghdad had insisted that Iraqis should be included in repair

Iran has charged that the wells were hit by Iraqi fire in the Gulf war but the Iraqis say only one Iranian well is leaking and that it was damaged by accident.

The Iranian news agency (IRNA), monitored in London, quoted Iranian President Ali Khamenei as saying Friday his country would try to cap the leak by itself, adding that other countries in the region could supervise the work.

Iraq urged Muslim clergymen to decide who started war

BAGHDAD (R) — An international conference of Muslim clergymen opened in Baghdad Friday with a call by Iraq for delegates to decide who started the Iran-Iraq war.

About 280 clergymen from 50 countries are attending the four-day conference. They include at least one prominent Iranian opposition figure, Musa Al Musawi, president of the High Islamic Council in North and South America.

Mr. Ibrahim said Iran was responsible for the continuation of the war which, he said, had encouraged Israel to invade Lebanon last year and to attack an Iraqi nuclear reactor near Baghdad in 1981.

In a statement Mr. Amihud said: "At the end of four days of talks, one can definitely say that progress was achieved, understanding was reached on a series of points and some drafting problems were resolved."

"Of course, there is still a lot of work to be done."

President Ami Gomayel, who is relying on U.S. support to remove all Israeli, Syrian and Palestinian forces from Lebanon, was officially quoted as telling a cabinet session that the talks had overcome important obstacles.

Lebanese spokesman Daoud Sayegh said they debated technical annexes to a Lebanese version of a draft agreement.

Israeli spokesman Yossi Amihud said the negotiators "filled in the blanks" in a series of texts where the two sides were still seeking acceptable forms of words.

He said the discussions avoided the biggest obstacle—the future of Israeli-backed militia leader Maj.

Kohl-Reagan talks to focus on missiles

WASHINGTON (R) — West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl arrived in Washington Thursday night for talks with President Reagan which U.S. officials said would focus on nuclear arms, East-West trade and next month's economic summit in Williamsburg, Virginia.

West German sources said Mr. Kohl, whose re-election last month pleased the White House, would try during his one-day visit to defuse a potential row over trade with the Soviet military.

The White House sources said Mr. Kohl would stress that West Germans must be convinced that Mr. Reagan and the European allies were doing all they could to reach agreement with Moscow to avoid

the planned deployment of 572 U.S. medium-range missiles in Europe starting this December.

But the senior U.S. official, briefing reporters on the visit, said Bonn endorsed Mr. Reagan's intention to let each superpower base equal but reduced numbers of the new missiles in Europe pending a pact of bar them all.

He expressed confidence that Mr. Kohl would remain steadfast, although a majority of his constituents oppose deployment of new Pershing-2 missiles on German soil.

Arafat arrives in Bulgaria

VIENNA (R) — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat arrived in Sofia Friday for a working visit at the invitation of head of state Todor Zhivkov, the official Bulgarian news agency BTA reported. The agency gave no further details. But the Tunisian news agency TAP, reporting Mr. Arafat's departure from Tunis Thursday, said he would stay two days in Bulgaria. Mr. Arafat returned to Tunis on Thursday from a visit to Sweden. He had been expected to chair a meeting of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leadership within 24 hours to discuss the breakdown of their talks with Jordan on a joint approach to Middle East peace. Reports from Tunis said it was not immediately clear when the leadership meeting would take place.

FEATURES

Fujian under Western influence

By Richard Pascoe
Reuter

FUZHOU, China — "Watch out when you open your wallet. There are lots of thieves around here," a hotel waitress told the newly arrived guest about to venture out on the streets for the first time.

Hardly a typical greeting in China, one of the safest countries in Asia for the foreign traveller. But Fujian is hardly a typical province.

The strains of love songs imported from the capitalist world waft through its city centres from the more daring private shops and market stands that have installed stereo systems.

Fujian and neighbouring Guangdong are the home provinces of most of China's emigres, and the foreign influence is immediately apparent in the fashionable way the young women here dress, to emphasise rather than cover their shape.

Saggy trousers are a rarity in Fujian's bustling coastal cities, where it is sometimes impossible to tell the difference between local and overseas Chinese.

Nearly every family has a relative abroad, in Hong Kong or nearby Taiwan, where the Nationalists defeated on the mainland in 1949 still rule over a Republic of China.

A strong clan instinct brings many emigres back to Fujian on visits, and with them come cassettes of the popular Hong Kong and Taiwan love songs which the Communist Party condemns as "pornographic", but which everyone likes and passes around.

Taxi drivers play them to make a change from the Peking Opera on the radio, and no one in Fujian seems to mind.

Foreign cigarettes are freely on sale in the private shops and street

stalls of Amoy and Quanzhou, another thing theoretically banned by Peking.

Fujian has an independent and businesslike air about it, and feels more like the "Chinatowns" of South East Asia and the West except for one detail.

Since there is no private enterprise beyond the small family shop, Fujian lacks the dazzling neon shop signs in Chinese characters that elsewhere would hang down over the streets and alleys to attract customers.

But times are changing, and one new sign that stands out in central Fuzhou is "Hitachi Fujian", embossed on the side of a factory set up in cooperation with the Japanese.

Decades behind Hong Kong and Taiwan industrially, Fujian is at last trying to catch up.

Despite the waitress's warning, the only real sign of lawlessness was in the exploitation of children. A horrific performance by peasant acrobats took place on a street corner in Amoy.

A man, whose main act involved swallowing a metal ball and then the size of a squash ball and then regurgitating it, brought along his three young brothers and sisters. Two of them were trained contortionists although aged only six and eight.

At one point, the eight-year-old girl was forced to squat bent over backwards in a tight crab position, her head on the ground next to her feet.

The heavy, 13-year-old boy then stood on top of her for 10 minutes, his feet on her tiny hips and chest, while the older man collected money in a hat.

The girl showed no sign of pain,

but the performance was clearly against the law as explained in an irate People's Daily editorial last year announcing a ban on the princi-

palities. But in Amoy, several policemen looked on amused.

Fortune telling is also illegal, but the service is available down the back alleys of Quanzhou.

Religions are still strong in Fujian despite the party's 30-year campaign for atheism and the ravages of Mao Tsetung's fanatical Red Guards who smashed churches and temples in the late 1960s.

Many have now reopened. In Fuzhou, an enthusiastic Methodist preacher made five new converts in a packed church one evening.

On the road to Amoy the verges are dotted with temples newly built by peasants for burning incense to the traditional earth gods.

The chief monk at Amoy's Nanputuo Buddhist Monastery, Miao Zhan, denounces them all as superstitions, and certainly not Buddhist.

Catering for different tastes, a middle-aged woman in a green "Mao jacket", in fact called a Sun Yat-sen jacket in China because they predate Communism, sold pocket-sized photographs of scantily-clad girls at dusk for five fen (three cents) each. This would have brought instant arrest in Peking. No one seemed to mind in Fuzhou.

"Hello, compatriots on Taiwan. I am Wang Wei. Hope you are well today," coos a seductive female voice somewhat different from the usual shrill Communist radio announcers.

This is a propaganda programme aimed at Taiwan, picked up in the taxi on a seven-hour drive from Fuzhou to Amoy further down the coast, and a reminder of the unfinished civil war with the Nationalists on the other side of the Taiwan Straits.

Locals say Taiwan radio stations can be heard easily and Nationalist television can be seen as well in some areas.

— Field Newspaper Syndicate features

Losing weight: A thing of the past

By Erma Bombeck

Well, the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company has finally issued its new weight table for Americans. You know, the ones where they tell you what you should weigh if you're a certain height.

It's an excitement I usually reserve for an impacted wisdom tooth.

But not this year. For the first time since 1959, the tables have upped the numbers on how much you can weigh and still be healthy.

Have you any idea what that means to a layperson? It means for the first time since 1959, I don't have to lie to myself about being a large frame instead of a small. I never knew what that meant anyway. Besides, why should I stay in a small frame and live with 16 extra pounds of guilt? Who needs that?

The study said the fact that Americans are heavier is no cause for alarm. It just means that a lot of heavier people are living longer than they did 24 years ago because of improved diets, lifestyle and exercise.

I prefer to think it is the first thread of sanity to be woven into the fabric of the future. It was bound to happen. People are just plain bored to death with dieting.

It used to be fun going to a gathering and talking about a brand new diet where you change fruits every hour and dance.

And then the books started coming out about how the only way to lose weight was to eat less. Anybody can do that. It's no fun anymore.

It's going to be interesting to imagine what will dominate people's conversations when they won't have those "ten extra pounds" to lose. It'll probably translate to the following conversation:

"You look wonderful! Are you on a gain?"

"Yep. Started last Monday. I'm doing it slowly this time... all I can hope for is that I gain two pounds a week."

"That's great. That way you won't balloon out all at once and look old. I'd love to gain a few pounds. What's your secret?"

"Eat fast. I gorge myself. Snack between meals and haven't touched a stalk of celery since the holidays."

"I envy you. I was a blimp when I got married. Now look at me. All I do is lose. I thought when I had the baby I'd keep the weight on, but I didn't."

"It makes me a little giddy to even think about a nation that isn't on a diet. In the same paper where I read about the insurance tables, I also saw a story that said a study was done on pigs. It seems the more they exercised, the fatter they got."

There really is a God.

-- Field Newspaper Syndicate features

Musgrave's spacewalk tops all achievements

By John Pine
Reuter

KENNEDY SPACE CENTRE, Florida — Dr. Story Musgrave, who joined Donald Peterson this week for the first U.S. space walk in nearly a decade, has such a record of achievements that some of his colleagues believe he never sleeps.

Astronaut, surgeon, scientist, jet pilot, engineer — the 47-year-old Bostonian has earned all those titles and a few more.

It's almost as if Musgrave considers sleeping to be a waste of time. He stayed up two hours later than he was supposed to on launch day, which was a very long day for the astronauts anyway, to do some extra work.

Musgrave works out the tensions of a demanding schedule by running marathons, sport parachuting, scuba diving, playing chess, flying gliders and riding motorcycles.

He is considered an expert on the multimillion-dollar spacesuits that he and Peterson, 49, tried out in the space shuttle Challenger's open cargo bay.

Commander Paul Weitz, who walked in space during the first Skylab mission in May, 1973, and pilot Karol Bobko remained in the pressurised crew cabin. Bobko, 45, monitored the "extravehicular activity" while Weitz, 50, took photographs and prepared dinner.

All four astronauts are experienced pilots with degrees in science. Between them they have 50 years of service to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

But Musgrave's background and academic achievements set him apart from his fellow crewmen — and just about everyone

else. He holds five university degrees in medicine, chemistry, biophysics, mathematics and computer programming.

"After reading about his many accomplishments, I don't see how he ever had time to sleep," flight director Randy Stone told a press conference as the two mission specialists got ready for the space walk.

It's almost as if Musgrave considers sleeping to be a waste of time. He stayed up two hours later than he was supposed to on launch day, which was a very long day for the astronauts anyway, to do some extra work.

Asked if NASA was worried Musgrave might not have had enough rest before the taxing spacewalk, Stone said: "I don't believe you can over-exert yourself."

After graduating from a Massachusetts high school in 1953, Musgrave joined the Marine Corps with the intention of learning to drive bulldozers.

The marines had other plans, and made him an aircraft crew chief, a job that led him into the air — and beyond.

After the marines he took a degree in mathematics, got a job in computer programming and won his first master's degree.

His study of computers led to an interest in how the brain works and he went to medical school, planning to become a neurosurgeon.

He was selected as an astronaut

in 1967, and NASA has since made full use of his technological, physiological and aeropautical expertise.

Aside from his spacewalk responsibilities, Musgrave helped develop the shuttle computer system, one of the most complex ever devised.

He maintains his proficiency as a doctor by doing part-time surgery at a Denver hospital, treating victims of bullet, knife and car accidents.

He is a father of five and divorced, living near the Johnson Space Centre in Houston.

Weitz, a retired navy captain, flew 150 missions in the Vietnam War. He joined the qualification needed to become an astronaut and was selected by NASA in 1966.

His first space flight was in the first manned Skylab mission nearly 10 years ago. He spent more than two hours outside the cabin during the mission, which lasted 28 days.

Married with two children, he also lives near the Johnson Space Centre because of the demands of shuttle training.

So does Bobko. Born and raised in New York City, he was a member of the first class to graduate from the Air Force Academy. He joined NASA in 1969, is married and has two children.

Peterson, who likes to unwind by doing difficult mathematical problems, came to the space programme from the air force in 1969. He retired as a colonel.

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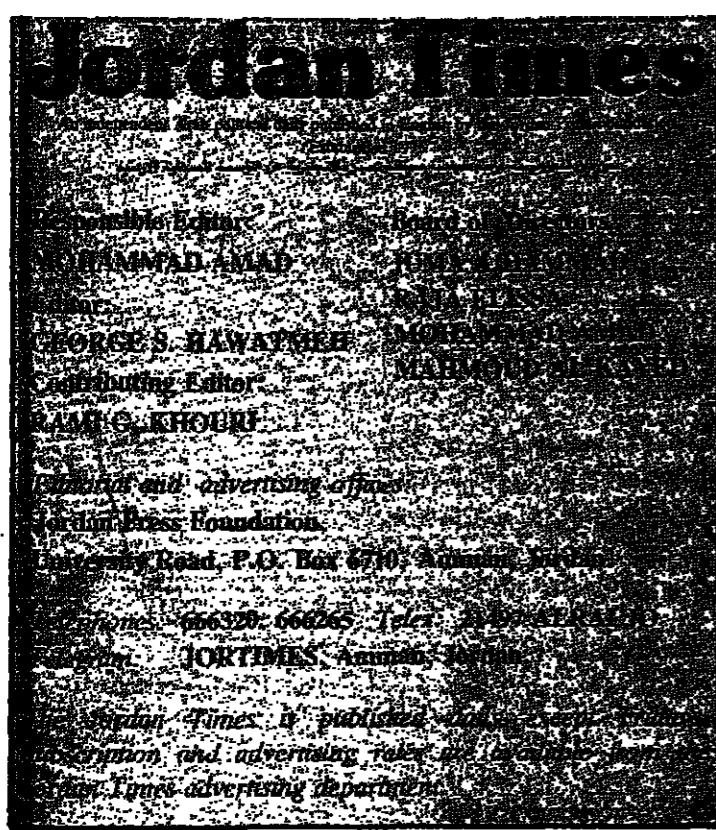
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So the story goes

IN Washington, a House foreign affairs subcommittee has quietly increased the amount of military and economic grants for Israel by \$365 million over the amount requested by the Reagan administration for the 1984 fiscal year. Committee members said the administration had requested \$785 million in economic grants and this was raised by \$65 million to \$850 million.

The administration also had requested \$1,700 million in military aid, of which \$550 million would be in the form of grants and the rest in loans. The committee, which is headed by Representative Lee H. Hamilton, Democrat of Indiana, decided to allow \$850 million to be in the form of grants — an increase of \$300 million — leaving \$850 million to be repaid, instead of more than \$1.1 billion.

The committee members said that even though the committee had been discussing the increases for some time, the administration made no effort to block the rise. This was in contrast to the efforts by the administration to block an aid increase to Israel in the temporary aid bills passed last December. Israeli supporters on the committee said the vote was by "consensus" without opposition.

In a related development, a California man has challenged the legality of America's multi-billion-dollar annual aid and arms package for Israel.

In a certified letter to IRS Commissioner Roscoe Egger, Jr., Mark Behrend has refused to state his 1982 tax liability, arguing that to do so would violate the U.S. Constitution and two sections of the U.S. Criminal Code.

"The First Amendment provides that 'Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion.' Yet, every year, Congress allocates billions in foreign aid to Israel, a nation conceived and built as an establishment of the Jewish religion," states Behrend, a 35-year-old manufacturing planner from Palo Alto.

Behrend says he is seeking a test case on arms sales and the aid programme, which together account for most of the arms that have made Israel the Middle East's top military power, and for almost half of all U.S. foreign assistance.

In his letter to the IRS, Behrend challenges Washington to prosecute him within sixty days — or concede that his constitutional argument is correct.

"Charging that Israel is an establishment of religion makes this the easiest protest of all," he adds. "The people who have unwittingly stressed this most strongly are the Israeli and Zionist leaders themselves. They have insisted from the beginning that Israel is an establishment of Judaism, and Israeli law proves it."

Even if he is not prosecuted for failure to file a tax return, Behrend believes he will make his point, and he predicts that millions of taxpayers will follow his example. "Working-class Americans will rebel," he warns, "when they discover that their tax dollars are not only funding aggression in the Middle East, but are subverting the Bill of Rights." Behrend sees the tax revolt as an expression of grass-roots politics. "If Congress and the courts won't enforce the constitution," he says, "the people will. That's the essence of democracy."

So the story of the Californian congressman goes: Palo Alto and Capitol Hill must be two different things.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Shamir's latest arrogance

ISRAELI Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir's assertion before a visiting U.S. military team to the effect that the freezing of the Jordanian-Palestinian talks would make it easy to pressure Jordan into joining peace talks are mere demagogic. The talks are solely a Jordanian-Palestinian concern, and neither of its participants has any intention of letting a third party interfere with it. Jordan, as the official communiqué of April 10 pointed out, respects the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) as the sole representative of the Palestinian people, and refuses to put pressure on the PLO, or indeed let any other do so either.

The proper way to stimulate the peace process cannot be by leaning on Jordan, as Shamir likes to participate, but by both forcing Israel into withdrawing from Lebanon, and stopping its settlements policies. Until American credibility is restored by action in these two respects, all talk of peace is simply irrelevant.

Needless to say, Shamir's idea of peace simply means a return to the idea of Palestinian "autonomy" rejected by Egypt. What the Israeli minister hopes is that Jordan would inject new blood into the dead body of the Camp David framework, which considers the Palestinians a foreign minority living in the land of Israel. The embarrassment caused by the Israeli extremists to the U.S. administration cannot be drowned by a new wave of meaningless talk.

Al Dustour: America's firm intention

NEW statements issued by the Lebanese and Israeli teams taking part in the tripartite talks suggest that the talks are now proceeding on a clear-cut line, which might lead to an Israeli withdrawal from some of the Lebanese territories. Nonetheless, it would be quite foolish to imagine that statements make history; it remains for the outcome of the talks to demonstrate whether the new round of talks, in which U.S. Special envoy Philip Habib has taken part, will be successful.

It cannot be denied that Mr. Habib's return to the region reflects on America's firm intention to solve the Lebanese crisis. But, judging from past experience, it is too early to judge whether an American verbal willingness will lead to practical substantive changes. Washington might like to play the witness at the negotiating table, but can the Arabs go on tolerating U.S. disinterest in a situation that requires a genuine responsible lead to establish peace. Washington's meeting of its international commitments and responsibilities is the only way of restoring U.S. credibility at this late stage. A peaceful settlement of the Middle East conflict led by the U.S. cannot be substantiated by forcing a status quo on the Arabs under the illusion that they are in completely immobile. Those who think of building sand castles should think of tomorrow's tides.

VIEW FROM AMERICA

By Franz Schurmann

As an American watching the course of the American economy toward the end of March, I begin to understand that there is wisdom in the prohibition against charging interest contained in the Holy Koran. The reason is that interest rates, since the last months of 1979, have emerged as some mysterious force that appears to determine the ups and downs and plateaus of the American economy. And since the American economy remains the linchpin of the world economy, this force therefore has the power to influence the economic lives of millions of people in the world.

As I understand the reasoning of the Holy Koran, profit is wealth that is earned. Interest is wealth that is not earned but obtained through some form of coercion. In British classical economic theory, there was a similar reasoning. It was not interest that was condemned, but rent, which then

meant income earned not through work but in other ways, as through ownership of land. Rent was understood to mean what we Americans call "windfall profits," that is something like dollar bills unexpectedly found on the road we walk on.

Be it Koranic interest or the rents of classical economics, they are both readily understandable. But the "prime rate" (or "discount rate" as it is more commonly called elsewhere) is something quite different. Adam Smith, the father of classical Western economics, once casually spoke of an "invisible hand" that brings all economies back into balance ("equilibrium"). I suppose he meant by that "God," since he was a devout Christian.

But post-classical economists have come to believe in a "visible hand." For Keynesian economists, that was the state. Despite all our preaching

The visible hand

about a government that is no more than the servant of the people, the American state is among the biggest and most powerful in the world. It directs the U.S. economy in many ways, but none so openly and directly as through setting the prime interest rate. It does this through an agency we call the Federal Reserve Board which in theory acts in complete independence from all other branches of government.

Americans used to think that the prime rate was like some master switch. It determined the movements of all other switches. Not so. The prime rate can come down and interest rates for ordinary borrowers remain high, and also the reverse. This was not so ten years ago, but it is definitely so now. So while the prime rate has come down, the interest rates I pay, on my credit cards, for example, remain well over 20%. Raising and lowering the prime rate in some ways resembles the workings of God.

Except for the prophets, He sends his messages to man in mysterious ways. It is really a general and not specific indicator of the policy or will of the government, say, for example, that there be more or less growth in the economy.

Before October 1979, the U.S. government influenced its own economy largely through spending policies. But the sudden rise in oil prices in the wake of the Iranian Revolution, forced a change in policy. The U.S. decided to influence not just the U.S. but the world economy through the manipulation of the interest rate.

The rise in interest rates that followed produced a U.S. and a world recession. There was a brief recovery in the U.S. between July 1980 and April 1981, but then the recession

continued.

In August 1982, the Fed lowered interest rates, and the U.S. stock market responded

with an astounding boom that has lasted till now. Recovery lagged, but finally set in early this year with rising economic indicators.

So, last August, the message from this mysterious yet visible hand appeared to be: The time has come for a return to economic recovery. And even if business and consumers took a while to understand, the economy slowly responded.

But in late March, "Fed" officials were hinting that, once again, the "money supply" was growing too fast and business analysts were warning that interest rates could go up again. That could mean an economic recovery even shorter than the 1980-1981 one.

High interest rates along with the Iran crisis brought about Jimmy Carter's defeat in the 1980 election. Would it not seem insane for Ronald Reagan to allow the same to happen to him?

It would, but this mysterious yet visible hand cannot be the servant of the presidential master. What it does — and that is shown primarily through interest rate policy — has an enormous effect on which direction the world economy goes. High interest rates mean not just money but power flows back to the U.S. But the cost is in economic growth. Low interest rates mean less money coming into the U.S. but also less power. And it also means a stronger dollar vis-à-vis other weaker currencies.

If the capacity to charge interest is a form of coercion and so unacceptable to those who believe that work alone should be the source of wealth earned, then the political question arises: If the U.S. does decide to go back to a high interest rate policy, will it serve to restore the U.S. power of persuasion that withered in the wake of the downturn in interest rates last year?

Europe fed up with Soviet espionage activities

By Sidney Weiland
Reuter

LONDON — Western governments, without admitting a coordinated crackdown, are tightening unwritten rules of tolerance in dealing with suspected Soviet spies.

France expelled 47 Soviet diplomats and officials last week, the biggest mass expulsion from a Western country since Britain sent home 105 Soviet suspects in a spectacular swoop 12 years ago. Other NATO governments have expelled or arrested at least 13 Soviet diplomats, trading representatives and others with semi-official status since the beginning of this year.

Around the world over a two-year period, about 80 Soviet officials are known to have been declared undesirable and ordered to leave both Western and Third World countries. Some expulsions are kept secret in the hope of avoiding reprisals.

In France's Socialist government, a spokesman said France was proving

actions with the Kremlin by ordering our 40 Soviet diplomats and seven officials, accusing them of systematic spying on military, scientific and industrial secrets.

French intelligence sources said all worked for Soviet espionage organisations, either the KGB, Moscow's security police network, or its military counterpart, the GRU. The charges were quickly denied by Moscow.

Britain expelled a Soviet assistant army attaché, a diplomat and a journalist last week, accusing them of activities incompatible with their status, a catch-all charge used by governments that usually means espionage. The expulsions brought the British total to five since December, including a naval attaché and a translator. Britain and France denied any linkage, but a British spokesman said both actions and other Western expulsions "demonstrated a common determination by Western governments not to tolerate such activities by the Soviet Union."

In Paris, a government spokesman said France was proving

"it has no intention of being gullible" in dealing with spies using diplomatic or other official cover. Another French source said the rash of recent Western expulsions resulted "from a rather parallel feeling of being fed up with the volume of Soviet espionage activity."

Close touch

Although governments take their decisions independently, they keep in close touch on intelligence gathering through the Brussels-based NATO secretariat. Names of Soviet suspects are exchanged by NATO intelligence services on a regular basis.

Intelligence sources say detailed dossiers are kept on all Soviet officials, and mass expulsions can be triggered off as much by political as security considerations. What causes a government to say "enough is enough" is rarely disclosed. Western officials believe the latest crackdown may be due to a threefold

combination: Sharper Western surveillance, more brazen spying by Soviet agents, and — to a lesser extent — incriminating disclosures by KGB defectors.

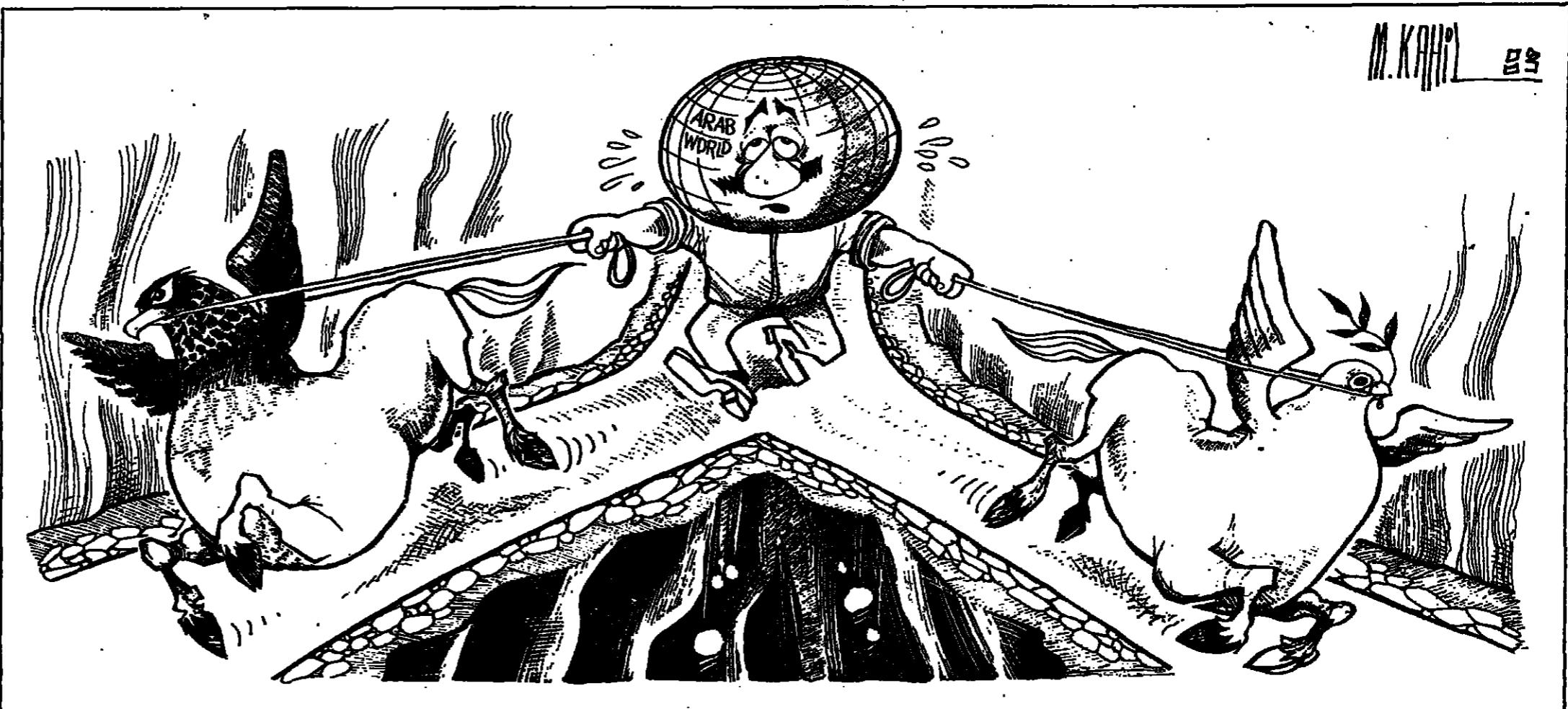
All agree that Western governments have taken a tougher line in letting Moscow know that some of its activities go beyond the limits of a generally accepted "tolerance threshold." Intelligence sources say Soviet diplomats have broken tacitly acknowledged rules of behaviour by operating with increasing openness in their hunt for sensitive information, especially data on high technology.

The French newspaper *Le Monde* said Soviet efforts to glean French technological secrets have intensified in the past two years, with the Toulon submarine base a key target. Soviet diplomats and military attachés in Britain and the United States have been tracked to public libraries, consulting and photocopying publications dealing with defence. Soviet naval attaché Anatoly Zотов was expelled from Britain

last December after British sources said he had tried to build up a network of agents to get classified information. A month later, NATO sources said a Soviet aviation official was asked to leave Belgium after he was caught receiving data about the American F-16 fighter from a Belgian engineer.

Italy ordered the arrest of two Russians — a businessman and a Soviet airline official — in February on spying charges. Since January, Soviet officials have been expelled from Spain, the Netherlands, and Denmark. West Germany arrested a Soviet trade official as a spy suspect in February. Neutral Switzerland and Sweden have also acted against Soviet diplomats. Three were expelled by Switzerland this year, two by Sweden last December. Two trade officials were expelled by Norway, two diplomats by Portugal, and a military attaché by the U.S. last year. In the Third World, expulsions were disclosed in the last two years.

Under rules set by Britain, the Soviet presence in London is automatically cut by one whenever a Russian is expelled for activities which Britain judges to be improper. The U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) said last year that one-third of all Soviet diplomats in Washington worked for the KGB. Other NATO intelligence analysts believe the proportion may be similar in most West European capitals.



Pentagon goes ahead with Copperhead despite expenses and serious problems

By Christopher Hanson
Reuter

WASHINGTON — The Pentagon has decided to go ahead with the \$1.7 billion Copperhead laser-guided anti-tank weapon despite an official report showing it has serious problems, according to U.S. documents released today.

At an estimated \$50,000-60,000 per round, the Copperhead, which in theory could destroy a Soviet tank at a range of 16 km, may be the most expensive conventional artillery shell ever made.

Recently, after costs had soared by about 100 per cent, the army decided to scrap the weapon as too costly. Last week Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger reversed the decision. The Cop-

perhead is essential to the national security, he said in a letter to Congress requesting funding for it. But, according to the last official operational test of the Copperhead conducted in 1979, it cope poorly with common battlefield problems of bad weather, smoke and moving targets.

A copy of the test report was acquired by the Project on Military Procurement (PMP), a private watchdog group critical of Pentagon waste, which made it public today.

The Copperhead is fired by a conventional cannon but requires a "spotter" — a soldier or helicopter pilot in a forward position who aims a laser beam at the target. The Copperhead is fired by a conventional cannon but requires a "spotter" — a soldier or helicopter pilot in a forward position who aims a laser beam at the target.

low this beam to the objective but bad weather could prevent that by obscuring the targets, especially in northern Europe, the report said.

Perfect weather

"(The) system does not function in anything but perfect weather — fog, snow, heavy rain severely hamper versatility ... and render it quite useless," it said. The Copperhead is one of a series of new helicopter-borne and land-based laser weapons the United States is developing to counteract what it calls the Soviet numerical advantage in tanks deployed in Europe and elsewhere.

By one estimate, these laser weapons would cost about \$2 billion in 1984 alone. But some

Pentagon officials say they would face the same problems as the Copperhead. President Reagan proposed last month to develop an Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) system that could include lasers in outer space, where bad weather would not be a problem.

Data tables in the report on the Copperhead show that the weapon is not effective against a moving target such as tank, supposedly its chief objective. Communications delays between the spotter and the artillery crew frequently lead to a lapse of 10 minutes or more between the time the Copperhead round explodes. During that time, moving tanks probably would pass out of the spotter's view, according to a Pen-

tagon official.

The army and the Martin Marietta Corporation, chief contractor for the Copperhead, told Reuters the weapon had hit targets more than 80 per cent of the time during tests conducted within the past year. An army spokesman said these tests were conducted against stationary targets in conditions that bore little resemblance to a real tank battle.

The weapon's minimum range of five-eighths of 1km also would limit its usefulness against Soviet tanks, which frequently would be sighted only at much closer ranges, according to some military analysts.

The publication International Defense Review, citing Soviet sources, said in 1980 the Kremlin

expected that 60 per cent of the time its tanks would not be seen by the enemy until they were less than a kilometre away.

The publication estimated that in West Germany, where 30 per cent of the land is covered by forests and 10 per cent by buildings, most enemy tanks would not be seen until they were 500 metres from the spotter or closer. An army spokesman, praising the Copperhead, said advanced surveillance techniques would frequently allow NATO forces to locate Soviet tank concentrations at distances much greater than a kilometre.

He added that the Copperhead also would be effective in destroying non-moving targets such as bridges and bunkers.

Joe S. in 1983

Why are those of us who 'have it made' so selfish?



Salwa
El Taher

Ronald Reagan once asked the computer: "How long will it take America to solve its current problems?" "Fifty years," answered the mighty machine. The president walked away, wiping his tears. Margaret Thatcher came forward: "How long will it take Britain to solve its current problems?" "A hundred years," answered the machine. The prime minister burst out crying. Hosni Mubarak then decided to have a go: "How long will it take Egypt to solve its current problems?" "Boooohoo!" burst out the machine in utter despair.

This is the kind of joke my niece and nephew in Egypt are telling. The Egyptians are notorious for their sense of humour, more often than not directed at themselves. Masochism? Release of frustration? No matter. For jokes are all that some people possess.

I remembered all that while reading colleague Marwan Muasher's column: "Apathy and indifference... a national disease?" (J.T. Saturday April 9). For his is an honest attempt to address symptoms that have become obvious to the naked eye: indifference, apathy, selfishness, egocentricity, lack of civic consciousness. But if his is an earnest try at assessing the

situation, much of what we read or hear nowadays very much resembles the joke in the first paragraph: cynical, defeatist, self-denigrating, verging on self-abuse.

Are we, by any chance, masochists? Do we try to sound smart, "on-top-of-things" by adopting an almost self-destructive critical attitude? If so, we are misfiring. For one is not smart when attacking the weak. Women — socially speaking — and people of the Third World in general are weak. And it is easy, oh-so-easy, to burst out the machine in utter despair.

While it might be momentarily rewarding to crack a few jokes at our own expense, to be constructive is not just to point out defects. To be constructive is, first of all, to try to understand. And, secondly, to try and suggest solutions. To care: to go beyond the effects to find out the causes; and finally, to suggest remedies: that is constructive criticism. Anything else is damaging.

Basic needs

Never more often in my life have I thought of psychologist Maslow. For he, at least, spent his

life studying human motivation in a significant way. And he came to the conclusion that man cannot achieve self-realisation (a degree of awareness, consciousness and care) without having satisfied prior needs first.

Maslow's "hierarchy of needs" is logic itself. It states human needs from lower to higher in the following manner:

1. Physical needs: food, water, sex, or the very basics for the survival of the species.

2. Safety needs: or a milieu relatively free from threats to life, and fostering security, or the basics for the human psyche.

3. Belonging and love needs: or the desire to form affectionate relationships.

4. Esteem needs: after being fed, housed and loved, man seeks to impress, to make an impact, to get recognition and respect.

5. Self-actualisation or self-realisation: only after moving up the prior echelons can man reach this state which allows him to be concerned with problems outside the self. To fight for justice or freedom. To enjoy beauty and knowledge. To pursue activities for their own sake (not for reward or recognition).

Granted, some people seem to defy logic. There has been and there still are men and women, who transcend their own needs and who sublimate them, achieving self-realisation while being in some ways deprived. But these are the poets, and the prophets.

Most mortals need to eat; to have a home; to be loved and accepted before they can reach out. A baby is selfish, self-absorbed, insecure, unsure of its place in the world. Only after years of uninterrupted care does he grow into a mature person concerned with the environment and humankind.

The growth of nations very much resembles the growth of individuals. And yet, looking at the Third World, what do we see? Societies plagued by wars, hunger, humiliation. The privileged too easily forget that the majority of mankind still goes hungry. In some respects, we are still in square one. Yet we tend to judge ourselves by the standards and through the looking glass of those in square sixteen.

Now, in all candour, are we being fair? Isn't there an imbalance somewhere in our judgement? What is the ultimate goal for most Arab men and women? And the answer always seemed to be in number 4: esteem. respectability. Criticism and jokes notwithstanding, we are stuck on respectability.

For, if human nature is essentially the same everywhere, different cultures emphasise different aspects of human behaviour. Ours over-emphasises esteem and recognition. This extra emphasis has stifled the individual who merely wishes to be. Who would be content to spend his life painting or playing the piano. Or planting roses, for that matter.

The last observation might seem to be very much beside the point, but it isn't. For it is individuals who have come to terms with themselves who look outside of themselves. It is they who want to give.

So, where does all this lead us? To many realisations.

First, that we have a very long way to go and need not be ashamed of it. Civilisations go in cycles, and the fact that ours has hit a low through colonialism is no reason for chest-beating. It is a reason for looking the facts in the eyes: that people are threatened in their very existence and that the immediacy of their needs is real. That no-one can sublimate hunger and fear, and therefore to expect the polish of developed societies in

developing ones is to be unrealistic.

Second, that we have in our own societies attitudes of spontaneity, generosity and mutual help that have disappeared in the developed countries precisely through the process of modernisation. These are worth cherishing and preserving. They are worth pointing out to the children who only seem to get the benefit of the grown-ups' negativistic remarks.

Third, that the role of responsibility falls on the privileged. Those who have had the benefit of an education, and who don't have to worry about their physical survival, are doubly responsible for others.

And this is where the real challenge lies. The privileged Arab has to move beyond the point where his honour is his ultimate goal: to take a step forward — involving risks and requiring effort — to free himself, to become less self-conscious, to grow out of himself and to get busy on what has to be done.

Meanwhile, as long as the privileged sit back and criticise and deride, there cannot be much hope for this generation or the next.

Donors say food aid is not the answer to Third World malnutrition

By Richard Waddington
Reuter

LONDON — Some nine million children will die of malnutrition this year but for western countries, burdened by surplus agricultural produce they cannot sell, increased food aid is not the solution.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) estimates that around 500 million children in Africa, Southeast Asia, the Middle East and Latin America do not get enough to eat and nine million die for lack of food each year.

"Malnutrition bears hardest on small children, contributing to the massive death toll among the young and interferes with the adequate growth and development of the survivors," WHO Director-General Hafidh Mahler says.

Yet in the United States, the world's leading food producer, the government is encouraging farmers to leave 30 per cent of their land idle this year in an effort to reduce surpluses and boost agricultural prices.

Last month President Reagan said he would move cautiously in distributing government-owned food surpluses. "We've been careful... not to deprive our own farmers of commercial sales," he said.

In the European Economic Community, warehouses are bulging with excess farm products such as cereals, sugar and milk powder. Fruits and vegetables are being destroyed to support prices.

The attitude of the United States and the European Community was described as tragic by a senior adviser with the United Nations World Food Programme in Ethiopia, which experienced a drought said to be as serious as the one in 1974 in which 200,000 people

died.

Martin Mock said the massive cutbacks in U.S. agricultural output and the destruction of commodities in Western Europe were "a tragedy showing lack of sensitivity to human sufferings and institutions."

Absurd paradox

And for the Director-General of the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), Edouard Saouma, mass starvation in the face of such abundance represents "an absurd paradox."

Saouma has urged FAO donor countries to build up emergency stocks to longstanding target levels.

The European Community spent about \$700 million in food aid last year, about 25 per cent of its total development aid spending, with milk products accounting for about two-thirds of the total cost, according to EEC statistics.

Since 1954 the United States has disbursed \$32.5 billion in food aid and loans to developing countries to buy surplus U.S. commodities.

Although EEC officials do not rule out the use of free food in the case of natural disasters, they argue that it is not a solution to the problem of hunger.

Transport was the biggest problem, especially as the most needy areas could usually not be easily reached, he said.

Community officials also noted that there was a danger that people in developing countries would grow accustomed to food that was alien to their usual diet and which they were unable to grow themselves.

He told a news conference last month that the role of food aid should be to help developing cou-

ntries increase their self-reliance in agriculture.

To this end the EEC is backing a pilot food strategy programme in four African countries, Kenya, Mali, Rwanda and Zambia.

Mal, like Ethiopia, facing a severe drought and officials there have warned of a possible disaster as great as the Sahel drought a decade ago as water shortages are compounded by the steady southern encroachment of the Sahara.

Informed sources said that Kenya and the EEC began discussions in Nairobi last month on Kenyan plans for heavy investment in new strategic food storage facilities, better roads in farming areas and supply of fertilisers and farm tools.

Commissioner Pisani said in Nairobi last year that EEC's approach was based on the assumption that it was better to Europe to help African states boost food production and maintain adequate stocks for emergencies rather than provide relief supplies when a crisis arose.

It is naive to suppose that world hunger can be relieved by shipping mountains of surplus products to suffering Third World countries, a farm ministry official in Bonn commented.

"By the time the surplus apple arrives in India, it will have rotted away," he added.

Transport was the biggest problem, especially as the most needy areas could usually not be easily reached, he said.

Community officials also noted that there was a danger that people in developing countries would grow accustomed to food that was alien to their usual diet and which they were unable to grow themselves.

A self-help policy has been backed by Asian countries, where half

Import dependence

They cited the example of the United States giving away cereals to some Asian countries with a traditionally rice-based diet which led to a growing dependence on imported wheat.

Privately some FAO officials accept that there is little link between surplus-cutting policies and the plight of the starving.

"Record world harvests and surpluses last year have not prevented famine in Ethiopia," one FAO official said.

He added: "I do not see President Reagan's (agriculture) programme making much difference to the number of starving people in a year's time."

Other officials noted that even if surpluses were made available for aid there must be ports, internal distribution and storage systems that could handle the food. And clean water is needed to mix with milk powder.

"When you have an emergency, the bottlenecks are usually distribution and water availability," one official said.

Martin Mock sees the present food situation in Africa as a result of inadequate efforts by all concerned.

He said food aid should be seen as a temporary measure to alleviate suffering, but African governments must do more to improve national agriculture by developing irrigation systems to lessen their dependence on erratic rainfall.

China, the world's most populated country, has solved its problem in this field by moving from a rain-orientated agricultural system to an irrigated one, he added.

A self-help policy has been backed by Asian countries, where half

the world's people live. China and India (the region's other population giant), are largely self-sufficient.

Philippines President Ferdinand Marcos told a recent meeting of Asian agriculture ministers in Manila: "Before the stark realities of the food problem, we in Asia have come to realise that the

solution lies in self-sufficiency."

Leaders of the Non-Aligned Movement meeting in Delhi last month also underlined the importance of self-reliance, but added that adequate assistance was also required if developing countries were to boost agricultural output.

It is now two decades since the last reports of large-scale famine

in China, and foreign diplomats and experts say that there is now no starvation or widespread scarcity of food.

Other Asian countries report significant turnarounds in production. Pakistan has become a net exporter of wheat, and the Philippines has moved from being a rice importer to a net exporter in

recent years.

But while famine has been mostly eliminated across Asia, governments are still at the mercy of the weather and hundreds of millions remain undernourished. Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi said recently that more than 200 million Indians live below the official poverty line.



FOR THE TRAVELLER

AMMAN AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alia information department at Amman Airport, tel. 62202-6, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

06:45 Cairo (EA) 19:10 Jeddah (RJ)

08:45 Cairo (EA) 20:05 Cairo (EA)

09:15 Abu Dhabi (RJ) 20:15 Bagdad (RJ)

09:30 Tel Aviv (RJ) 20:30 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)

01:15 Cairo (EA) 20:45 Cairo (EA)

02:20 Cairo (EA)

Local self/buy rates in fils

Bahrain 73.6 74

Belgium 130.1 131.3

Brunei 321.3 325

French franc 48.9 49.2

Iraqi dinar 523.7 532.5

Italian lire (for 100) 24.8 25

Japanese yen (for 100) 150.1 150.9

Malaysian ringgit 122.47 123.2

Malta 130.1 131.3

New Zealand 85.1 86.6

Osman (r) 103.7 105.2

Omani rial 57.8 60.6

Rome (Alitalia) 103.5 104.1

Kuwait (KAC) 57.0 57.4

Athens (GA) 47.7 48

Swiss franc 17.4 17.5

Cairo (EA) 61.5 61.9

UAE dirham 97.8 98

Frankfurt (LH) 55.4 55.2

Beirut (MEA) 35.8 36.0

Cairo (EA) 146.6 147.5

Baghdad (RJ) 147.5

Beirut (RJ) 147.5

Cairo (EA) 147.5

Doha, Muscat (GA) 147.5

Cairo (EA) 147.5

SPORTS

Arsenal seeks revenge in English F.A. Cup

LONDON (R) — Arsenal seek revenge against Manchester United Saturday for the prize of contesting the English Football Association (F.A.) Cup final for the fourth time in six seasons.

Arsenal were beaten by United in the semifinals of this season's League Cup and are determined to reverse the outcome at the same stage of the F.A. Cup in neutral Birmingham Saturday.

A victory over United would make the London side strong favorites to win the final at Wembley against the victors of the other semifinal between struggling Brighton and second division Sheffield Wednesday.

Arsenal beat United in the 1979 final, their only triumph in three successive F.A. Cup final appearances. United also carried off the trophy once in their three most recent outings in the final, beating Liverpool, their conquerors in this season's League Cup final, in 1977.

Both sides have been hit by injury. Arsenal are likely to be without midfielder Peter Nicholas and striker Alan Sunderland but their other two fitness doubts—goalkeeper Pat Jennings and defender David O'Leary, their captain—could recover in time.

Manchester United have lost international trio Steve Coppell, Arnold Muhren and Lou Macari and were giving Irish defender Kevin Moran a fitness test Friday.

Paul McGrath, who has depurated for Moran in seven of the last nine matches, stands by again.

Laurie Cunningham, on loan from Spain's Real Madrid, may be substitute.

A win for United would end London's four-year hold on the F.A. Cup through Arsenal, West Ham and—for the past two years—Tottenham Hotspur.

Brighton, struggling to avoid the drop to division two, are the only team in the last four who have never played in an F.A. Cup final.

They beat Liverpool to reach the sixth round for the first time in their history but will have their work cut out to better hard-

working Sheffield Wednesday, managed by former England defender Jack Charlton.

Wednesday last won the Cup in 1935 and have not appeared at Wembley since they were beaten by Everton in 1966, a couple of months before Charlton enjoyed his greatest triumph there as a member of England's World Cup winning side.

Both sides have fitness worries, most notably Brighton's Irish winger Gerry Ryan and Wednesday's experienced defender Mike Lyons.

Connors moves closer to 4th Pacific Southwest title

LOS ANGELES (R) — Top-seeded Jimmy Connors, the defending champion, defeated Mexico's Raul Ramirez, 6-3, 7-6 (7-4), to advance to the quarterfinals of the \$255,000 Pacific Southwest Tennis Open tournament here Thursday night.

Connors, 30, the tournament singles winner in 1973, 1974 and last year, will face number eight seed Sandy Mayer of the U.S. in the next round. He will be seeking to become the third player in the 57-year history of the tournament to win it four times.

Mayer had earlier defeated veteran Roscoe Tanner, 6-3, 6-3, while his younger brother Gene, seeded number two, also cruised through to the quarter-finals by beating American Robert Van Hof in straight sets, 6-2, 7-6.

Connors raced to a 5-1 lead against Ramirez, with two service breaks. Ramirez, the 11th seed, broke back the next game but Connors held for the set.

Successive breaks in the third and fourth games of the second set deadlocked the score at 2-2 as the calibre of tennis picked up.

Ramirez, 29, led 6-5 and held two set points to force a tie-breaker.

After Ramirez jumped into a 3-1 lead, Connors fought back again and rallied to take six of the final seven points for the match.

Top seeds Netherlands first to reach hockey semifinals

KUALA LUMPUR (R) — The top-seeded Dutch team moved confidently into next week's Women's Hockey World Cup semifinals, beating Australia 1-0 Friday in a top-of-the-table clash in their six-nation qualifying pool.

But team coaches in the other group were reaching for calculators and worry beads after World Cup champions West Germany climbed off the bottom place by beating New Zealand and Argentina went down to Canada.

The Dutch, who have won two of the last three World Championships, stopped the Australian march into the last four with a goal 13 minutes from the end through experienced sweeper Fieke Boekhout.

The Dutch played a superb tactical game tightly marking the unbeaten Australians who had hit nine goals in their first three matches.

PRAGUE (R) — Czechoslovakia needs a big win against Cyprus tomorrow evening, said a Czechoslovak soccer official who preferred not to be named in case he proved over-optimistic.

But Cyprus, like Czechoslovakia, have already held World Champions Italy to a 1-1 draw and are determined not to succumb meekly.

"We have come to Prague to do well. In every manager's book success is only when his side does not lose," Cyprus' Bulgarian manager Vassil Spasov said.

Both managers are expected to field almost identical teams to

other hand have continued to improve and after a dramatic last-minute win over West Germany Thursday moved to top of the table ahead of England with a comfortable 2-0 victory over Argentina.

The 10th-seeded Canadians, who incredibly only have 1,000 registered players, even missed a penalty stroke in the 16th minute.

Speedy centre-forward Darlene Stoyka got both their goals after the interval.

Canada, who spent two months in Australia preparing for the tournament, play their last game against the Soviet Union on Sunday and must feel confident of joining England in next Wednesday's semifinals.

Australian coach Brian Gleeson has told his team he wants nothing less than a win against the U.S. though with a better goal difference a draw would take the four

team seeds through with the Dutch.

Those which played a 1-1 draw in Nicosia a fortnight ago.

Havranek, his captain, will be fully recovered from a back problem. He will probably replace striker Petrzelka with 31-year-old Zbignek Hotovy.

Spasov also hopes all his players will be fit. Midfielder Karseras and striker Mavris, who scored the Cyprus goal against Italy, are his only doubts.

Saturday's early start is to avoid competition with the opening match of the World Ice Hockey Championship in West Germany.

Italy bids for first European soccer win

BUCHAREST (R) — World Soccer Champions Italy run out here Saturday on a do or die mission to save their European Cha-

mpionship lives.

The Italians, who take on group five leaders Romania, have not won since they beat West Germany 3-1 to lift the World Cup in Spain last year.

But, unless they change that desperate run Saturday their chances of qualifying for next year's finals in France will be remote.

Manager Enzo Bearzot has kept faith with the side that has drawn three times in the championships so far—at home against Czechoslovakia and Romania and away in Cyprus—to leave them in third place two points behind the Romanians.

He includes seven players from European Cup semifinalists Juventus, no doubt hoping some of their recent change of fortune at home and in Europe will rub off.

World Cup men Marco Tardelli and Bruno Conti both passed late fitness tests and play, while striker Sandro Altobelli, one of the Italian league's top scorers, will be substituted.

The Romanians have dropped just one point in three games, holding Italy 0-0 but beating Sweden and Cyprus at home. Their side has not been named.

Title fight in S.African homeland condemned

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Anti-apartheid campaigners and a U.N. official Friday joined in condemning the promotion of a world boxing title fight next month in the South African black homeland of Bophuthatswana.

U.N. Assistant Secretary General Enugu Reddy described the fight promoter, Bob Abrams, as a "quite notorious" figure.

He linked the decision to stage the fight in Bophuthatswana to the South African government's attempts to promote the homeland as a sovereign nation—a notion that has not been accepted by any country in the world.

He said \$5 million was being invested in the fight and an accompanying entertainment—including Frank Sinatra—and that seats would cost from \$240 to \$400. The fight was taking place at 3 a.m. South African time in order to attract late evening audiences for the telecast by satellite to the U.S., Reddy noted.

Reddy said he did not know how much Sinatra would receive for his performance but on a previous visit to Bophuthatswana he was paid \$2.4 million for nine days' work.

Richard Lapchick, chairman of the American co-ordinating committee for equality in sport

and society, was critical of the American fighter, Davey Moore, who will contest the World Boxing Association's version of the junior middleweight title against Roberto Duran of Panama.

Lapchick said Moore, who is black, had even refused to receive a petition against the fight signed by 325 Bronx and Brooklyn schoolchildren.

At the same time he praised New York City Parks Commissioner Henry Stern for having refused the facilities of Shea stadium, home of the New York Mets baseball team, for a live telecast of the fight.

Lapchick said his organization had appealed Friday to President Reagan for support for its campaign and to the Columbia Broadcasting Company to cancel its planned delayed telecast of the fight.

Sugar Ray Leonard, former world middleweight title holder now under contract to CBS, has been assigned to do the round-by-round commentary for the fight.

Lapchick said his organization was hoping to persuade Leonard not to go to South Africa and an aide told reporters there was a good chance that Leonard would agree.

Turbo-charged cars look set to dominate French Grand Prix

LE CASTELLET, France (R) — Turbo-charged cars set the eight fastest times in the first official practice for Sunday's French Formula One Grand Prix.

Italian Andrea de Cesaris took his Alfa Romeo round the 5,810-km circuit at Le Castellet, near Marseilles, in one minute 38.80 seconds.

Two Renault drivers, Frenchman Alain Prost and American Eddie Cheevers, were second and third followed by Italian Elio de Angelis in a Lotus and Brazil's Nelson Piquet in a Brabham.

Ferrari French pair Rene Arnoux and Patrick Tambay, separated by Mathieu Winkelhock of West Germany (ATS), completed the Turbo-charged sweep of the eight first places.

Austrian Niki Lauda, winner of the last Grand Prix at Long Beach, led the conventionally-powered cars in his McLaren while World Champion Keke Rosberg of Finland was 15th fastest in 1:42.450.

Two World Champion Lauda said at the end of the session: "The car felt terrific but I don't think it is possible to go any quicker here with a conventional engine."

De Cesaris said he was perfectly happy with his car and his performance. "I knew that last season was a year of transition, but I think I am now in a position to prove that the turbo-charged Alfa Romeo is a very competitive car," he said.

The failure of the Arrows team to find a major sponsor for this race meant that Australian Alan Jones, the 1980 World Champion, did not take part in the practice.

Amman Little League

Game scores — April 15

T-Ball

Chase Manhattan 14
Marriott 17
Jordan Express 18
AIK 22

Mids

Citibank 14
Intercon 11
Telcom 8

Seniors

Royal Falcons 6
Salute 19
Foxboro 2
Foxboro 8

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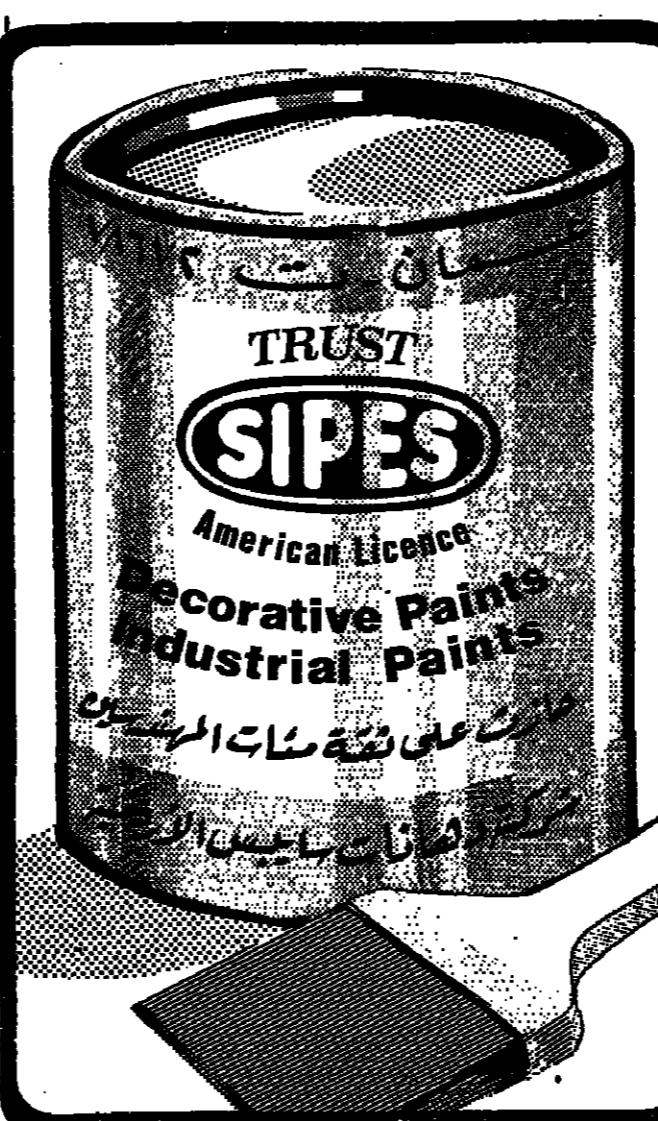
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ECONOMY

FAO chief calls for mobilisation of grain surpluses

ROME (OPECNA) — Mr. Eduard Saouma, director general of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), has called for the mobilisation of grain surpluses by cereal exporting countries to help Third World nations meet their emergency needs and build their national food reserves against future shortages.

In a report to FAO's committee on world food security, now meeting here, Mr. Saouma regretted that instead of assisting needy nations with their surpluses some major cereal-exporting countries were cutting back on production. "How can we reconcile in our conscience the existence of growing hunger with our failure to put otherwise embarrassing surpluses to humanitarian use," he said.

He observed that notwithstanding these surpluses, total commitments to food aid fell short of target and at the same time food

aid requirements were increasing. According to Mr. Saouma, 40 million people, half of them children, were dying every year from hunger and malnutrition adding, "if we were to observe a minute's silence for every person who died in 1982 due to hunger-related causes, we would still be standing here in silence throughout this century and beyond."

Reviewing the world economic situation, the director general noted that prices of most agricultural commodities had plummeted to their lowest level in 50 years in real terms, causing steep falls in export earnings with serious consequences for farmers.

The terms of trade of developing countries in agriculture had deteriorated by as much as 28 per cent in comparison with 1980 and the purchasing power of their exports had fallen to their lowest level.

China backs call for international economic conference

WELLINGTON (R) — Chinese Prime Minister Zhao Ziyang Friday supported a call by New Zealand Prime Minister Robert Muldoon for an international conference on the world monetary and financial systems.

He told a press conference after holding talks with Mr. Muldoon on world political and economic affairs that the proposal for a new type of international economic conference was "most far-sighted and shows sound judgment."

"We highly appreciate these proposals and think this conference should be a step towards the aim of restructuring the old economic relations in the world and establishing a fair and equitable new international economic order," Mr. Zhao said.

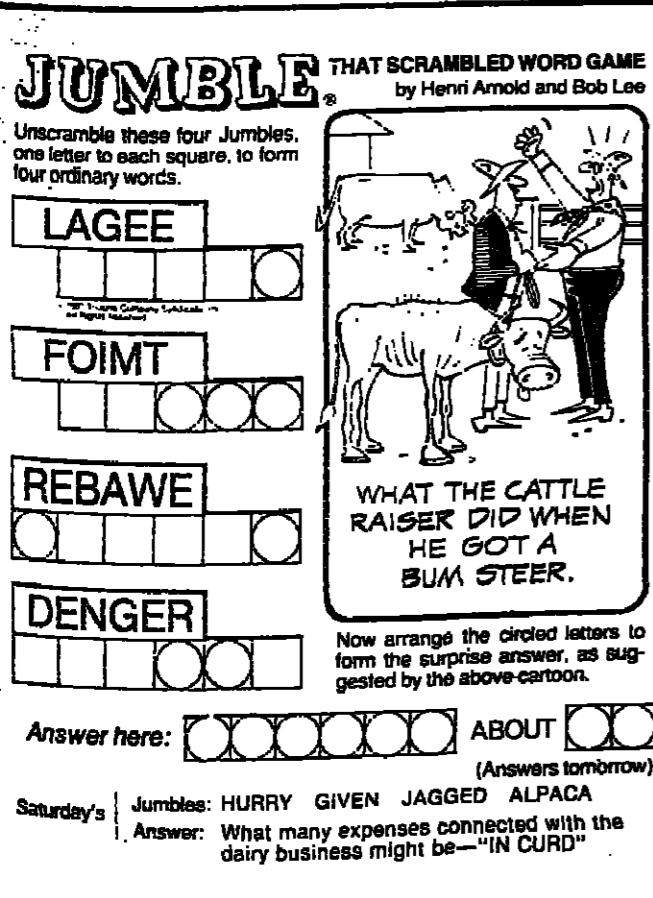
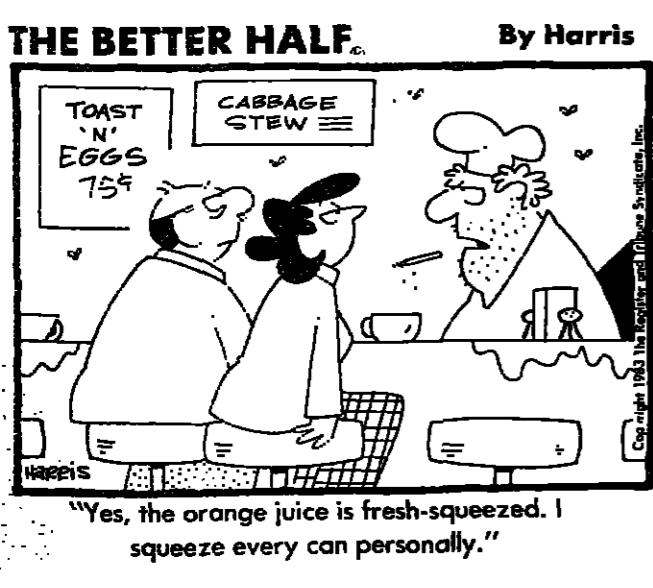
Mr. Muldoon, a former chairman of the World Bank, has long been campaigning for a new economic summit meeting along the lines of the 1944 Bretton Woods international conference, which established the modern world's financial and monetary system.

Qatar to set up data bank

DOHA (OPECNA) — An agricultural data bank is to be set up in Qatar to assemble statistics for use in formulating a general agricultural policy.

Mr. Mohammad Al Faifi, director of the agriculture and water research department at the ministry of industry and agriculture, said officials were carrying out a comprehensive economic and statistical survey on agriculture.

He said a delegation from the Arab Organisation for Agricultural Development, headed by Mr. Ramadan Abdul Mutti, director general of the Egyptian Planning Ministry Information Centre, was expected here this month to assist in the project.



Israeli inflation rate rockets

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel's price index jumped by 5.6 per cent last month, the highest March figure for 30 years, the Central Bureau of Statistics said Friday.

The latest rise brought the index to 825.4 based on the figure of 100 for January 1980.

The bureau also said the inflation rate for the 12-month period ending March 31 was 13.4 per cent, one of the highest ever recorded.

The rate for the whole of 1982 was 131.5 per cent.

The bureau attributed most of last month's rise to increased prices of food, particularly fruit and vegetables.

LONDON STOCK MARKET

London (R) — Equities were firm in quiet trading on stock shortage, while market sentiment remained optimistic over the general economic outlook, dealers said. The F.T. index at 1500 Friday was up 4.5 at 693.4 after its record 693.9 at 1100 hrs.

Government bonds drifted from early highs on profit-taking after the recent gains, dealers said. Some switching was seen out of longs into medium term issues, of which the government broker has been supplying the treasury 10½ per cent tap stock at 25%.

Gold shares were off the highs, though gains still stretched to \$2. North American shares were mixed.

In banks, Lloyds rose 5p to 486 and Barclays gained 4p at 470 while in firm insurances Hambro Life was up 16p at 372.

Oils were mixed, with B.P. and Shell both unchanged on balance while Ultramar, which fell 27p to 562 on reports of fire damage at an Indonesian LNG plant, rallied to 584, down 5p on balance, after Ultramar said it expects no appreciable loss from the blaze. British was up 2p to 204 after Thursday's annual report.

On the bid situation, BTR gained 8p at 436 and Thomas Tilling rose 4p to 193. After Thursday's figures, RTZ was up 20p at 604 after 612. Among the leaders, ICI was up 8p at 434, Glaxo rose 4p to 910 and Blue Circle was 17p higher at 483.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

London (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Friday.

	1,540/18	U.S. dollars
One sterling	1,232/26	Canadian dollars
	2,435/63	West German marks
	2,742/52	Dutch guilders
	2,0435/55	Swiss francs
	48,52/57	Belgian francs
	7,302/50	French francs
	1450.00/1451.00	Italian lire
	237.60/75	Japanese yen
	7,482/75	Swedish crowns
	7,142/75	Norwegian crowns
	8,642/75	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	435/436.00	U.S. dollars

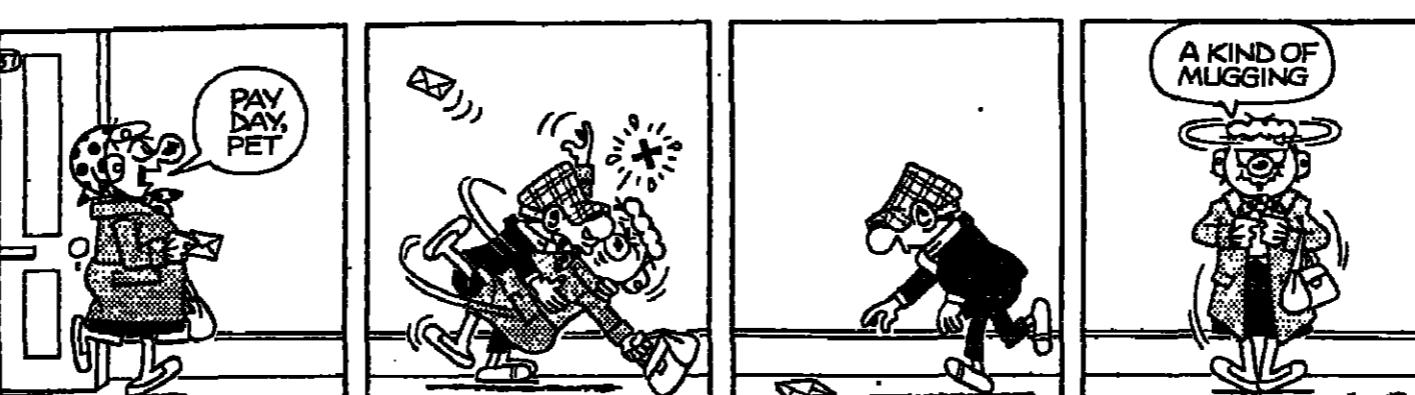
Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



NEWS IN BRIEF

U.K. banks cut interest rate

LONDON (R) — Two of Britain's four big commercial banks Thursday cut their interest rate to 10 per cent from 10.5 per cent in a move which the other commercial banks were expected to follow. The announcements by the National Westminster Bank and the Midland Bank had been widely expected following action by the Bank of England, the country's central bank, to trim its money market rates for the second day running.

Qatar cuts spending to \$1.06b

DOHA (OPECNA) — Qatar has cut its expenditure to \$1.06 billion for the financial year 1983-84, beginning Thursday. State spending in the last budget was \$2.3 billion, though it covered an exceptional 18 month period. The slimmer budget reflects the fall in the price and output of oil, which is the Gulf state's main export. Qatar (population, 225,000) is able to produce 500,000 b/d of crude, but under the OPEC accord is limited to 300,000 b/d.

S. African farmers face grim winter

JOHANNESBURG (R) — South Africa's maize and stock farmers face a grim winter and financial ruin in the wake of the country's worst drought this century. Mr. Piet Ebersohn, an official of the South African agricultural union, said this week that grazing in most of the farming areas was insufficient for the coming winter and arrangements were being made to import fodder to prevent further stock losses. A survey conducted by the National Maize Producers' Organisation found that the average maize farmer could be in the red by as much as \$130,000 rand (\$118,000) and most had been forced into insolvency.

Norway proposes N. Sea pipeline

OSLO (R) — Norway's state oil company, Statoil, has proposed construction of a trunk pipeline from Norwegian fields in the North Sea to Mongstad, north of Bergen on the west coast, a company spokesman said Thursday. The trunk line, costing an estimated five billion crowns (\$700 million), would land oil from major fields, some of them already under construction, and would also make it possible to develop marginal fields in the North Sea, he said. If approved by the government Mongstad, already one of Norway's main refineries, would become a major West European oil port, with a capacity to handle around one million barrels of oil daily.

Caracas ups oil product prices

CARACAS (OPECNA) — Venezuela has increased the price of several of its oil product exports. Diesel goes up by \$1.26 per barrel, jet-nero by 84 cents, naphtha by 63 cents and high sulphur residual fuel by 50 cents. Announcing the increases Thursday, Energy and Mines Minister Humberto Calderon Berti said they reflected a strengthening of the international market following last month's OPEC ministerial meeting in London. Mr. Calderon later flew to London where he will attend Monday's meeting of OPEC's market monitoring committee on which he serves with the oil ministers of Algeria, Indonesia and the United Arab Emirates.

Romania tightens labour system

VIENNA (R) — Young Romanians starting work for the first time will suffer financial penalties if they change jobs within five years under a new wages system at present under public discussion, the official news agency Agerpres reported Thursday. The measure is aimed at discouraging workers from switching their employment too often, and at strengthening "manpower stability," on which economic results greatly depend, Agerpres said. A worker beginning his first job will have to sign a "pledge-contract," binding himself to work in the enterprise for at least five years. If he leaves within this period without good reason the number of years counting towards his pension will be halved, and he will lose half the pay bonus he received as a share of the enterprise's profits, Agerpres said. Length-of-service bonuses will be increased to encourage workers to stay with the same enterprise, it added.

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY, APR. 16, 1983

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A day when you are able to find out more readily just where you are headed. It's advisable that you handle any questionable matters in the right manner. Study to gain knowledge.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Take time to make plans for the future. Be more sociable with persons of character and influence. Show that you have poise.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Engage in activities today that appeal to you the most. Put prejudices aside for best results. Show devotion to loved one.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Getting together with good friends today is worthwhile. Show that you are a wise and considerate person.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Make sure you carry through with agreements you've made with others. You can easily handle a civic affair now.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Ideal day to start building on a new foundation that could increase your income. Be more willing to accept change.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Study the promises you have made and be sure to carry through conscientiously. Come to a fine accord with loved one.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) A good time to improve your surroundings. Don't permit an opponent to take unfair advantage of you. Be happy.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Take care of matters you were unable to do earlier in the week. A good time to catch up on your reading. Be more optimistic.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) A day to engage in recreations you really enjoy. Showing more affection for loved one is wise at this time.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) If the situation is tense at home, don't make matters worse by using the wrong words. Count your blessings.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Handle communications in a most intelligent way and remain cool at all times today. Obtain important data you need.

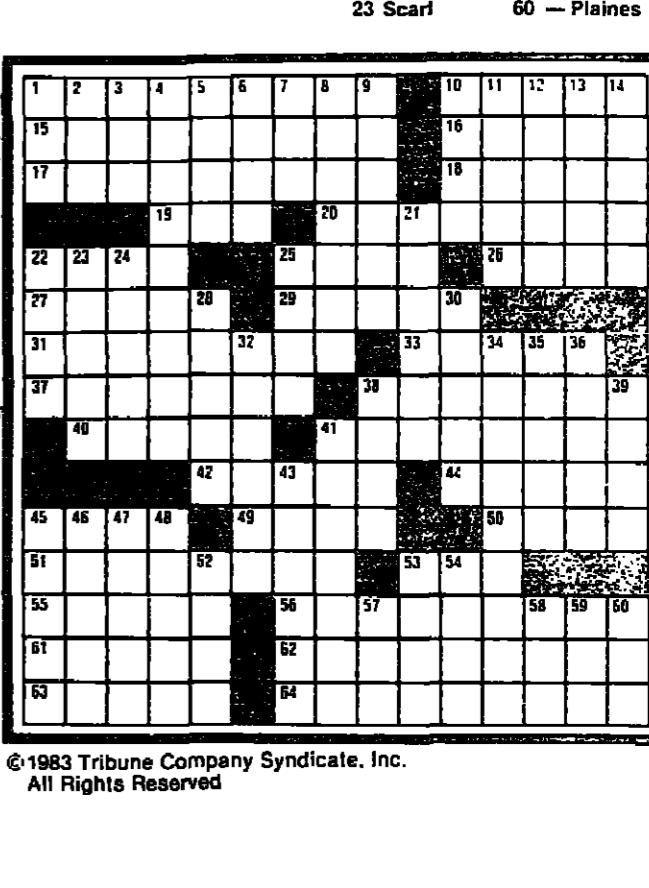
PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Study new ways of advancing in your line of endeavor. Look to a successful person for new ideas. Relax at home tonight.

"The Stars impel, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

THE Daily Crossword

by James & Phyllis Barrick

1 ACROSS	37 Illex	56 Showed	24 Serving a purpose
1 Parade	38 Carrying on wildly	61 Keep away	25 Neighbor of Wyo.
10 Confined	40 Gearwheel	62 Mark on a map	28 Tumults
15 Worship	41 Region to parts	63 Showed respect, in a way	30 Boxing milieux
16 White	42 Engendered	64 Disgraceful	32 One of the Society Islands
pc, lar	44 Sneaky one		33 Engage in delaying tactics
17 Resembling a net	45 Long narrative		34 Storage structures
18 Morning: Fr.	49 Train, in a way		35 Storage
19 Marsh	50 Laborer of old		36 Charged particle
20 Lather	51 Paved highway		37 Stare open-mouthed
22 Frenchman	53 Shooting		38 Jockeyed
25 Drain plug	55 Marble		39 Starry-eyed
26 Foil's cousin	55 River in Italy		41 Reminder of times past
27 "— Is Born"	56 —Solemnis"		42 Dashing
29 Hinder	57 Omit, as a syllable		43 Absolutely
31 Saber	58 Stupid		44 American poet
33 Beethoven's	59 Intermediate		45 Grievance
	60 Wound of a kind		46 Show backer
	61 Scarf		52 Strike
			53 Yugoslav leader, once
			54 Maple genus
			55 Duraya or Rather
			56 Cravat
			57 Mill. man
			60 —Plaines



WORLD

Underground Solidarity calls for May Day demonstrations

WARSAW (R) — Leaders of the underground wing of Solidarity have called on Polish workers to stage independent May Day rallies and boycott traditional communist celebrations — the first call for public demonstrations since December.

A communiqué made available to Western reporters Thursday night also confirmed that the fugitive activists met at the weekend with Lech Wałęsa, leader of the banned union, and coordinated policies with him.

Wałęsa did not sign the May Day appeal but said from his home in Gdańsk this did not mean he was dissociating himself from it. "You must understand I am not distancing myself from it and you must understand why I am saying this now," he said.

Wałęsa was questioned by police on Wednesday and his wife, Danuta, was called in Thursday.

This followed his earlier announcement of the secret weekend meeting with the Provisional Coordinating Commission (TKK) of five former senior Solidarity officials who have organised opposition to martial law.

The TKK communiqué said: "We are issuing an appeal to demonstrate the unity of society and its resistance through mass participation in independent May Day celebrations."

A peaceful May Day march by tens of thousands of people through the streets of Warsaw's old town last year was one of the most impressive expressions of continued support for Solidarity in defiance of martial law.

The underground leader in Warsaw, Zbigniew Bujak, has already called for a repeat this year.

The five former regional Solidarity leaders who make up the TKK evaded capture when martial law was declared in December 1981.

China revokes KLM emergency landing rights

PEKING (R) — China has revoked the emergency landing rights for the Dutch KLM airline in Canton in retaliation for the opening of an air link between the Netherlands and Taiwan, reliable diplomatic sources said Friday.

An inaugural Taipei-Amsterdam flight was made two days ago by China Airlines, the flag-carrier of the Chinese Nationalist-ruled island.

Peking has denounced as a violation of its sovereignty the Dutch decision to establish the link with Taiwan, which it regards as a rebel-held province.

The Nationalists, who settled on

Taiwan after their 1949 civil war defeat by the Communists, consider themselves the sole legitimate Chinese government.

West European diplomats described Peking's riposte as a measured one, considering the tone of recent official protests over the Dutch government's decision to authorise a weekly link between the two cities.

KLM does not have scheduled flights to China but until Friday it had the right to divert planes to Canton if Hong Kong's Kai Tak airport was out of action.

One diplomat, recalling that

some foreign commentators had

Interior Minister Czeslaw Kiszczak said last month that those opposing the communist authorities sought confrontation and an explosion, and would take their action for the first days of May.

Warsaw steps up pressure on Lech Wałęsa

WARSAW (R) — Polish authorities Friday kept up pressure on Solidarity leader Lech Wałęsa following his meeting with underground opposition leaders last weekend when police took his driver in for questioning.

Sources at Wałęsa's home in Gdańsk, contacted by telephone from Warsaw, said the driver was taken to the voivodship (provincial) police headquarters when he arrived at the apartment block in the Zaspa suburb this morning.

Wałęsa's wife Danuta said the driver, Mieczysław Wachowski, had received a police summons Thursday. Both Wałęsas told reporters they had refused to answer questions about the weekend meeting.

The communist daily Trybuna Ludu reported Friday that security police seized a transmitter used to broadcast the clandestine Radio Solidarity the night from Wednesday to Thursday. Several people were detained, it said.

The radio which has transmitted more than a dozen times in the capital was last heard on March 31 when the announcer painted a gloomy picture of Poland's economic prospects and appealed to people to maintain faith in Solidarity.

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The underground leader in Warsaw, Zbigniew Bujak, has already called for a repeat this year.

The five former regional Solidarity leaders who make up the TKK evaded capture when martial law was declared in December 1981.

U.K. to use armed forces to reduce unemployment

LONDON (R) — Britain's Conservative government has announced a scheme to reduce the ranks of the country's 3.1 million unemployed by training jobless volunteers in the armed forces.

Defence Secretary Michael Heseltine, announcing the scheme in parliament, said 5,200 jobless youths would be engaged for one year and receive the same basic military training as regular soldiers followed by work experience.

The volunteers will wear uniform and be subject to military discipline. The pay is £25 (\$38) a week less £10 (\$15) for food and accommodation. They will be able to leave at any time on 14 days' notice.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN

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BLOCK THE WAY TO FAILURE

Both vulnerable. East deals.

NORTH
♦ K Q 10
♦ 9 3 2
♦ K Q J
♦ J 9 5 3

WEST
♦ J 8 6 3
♦ K 8 5
♦ 8 5
♦ 10 8 7 2
♦ A Q 4

SOUTH
♦ K 7 5 4 2
♦ J 7
♦ A 7 2
♦ K 6

The bidding:

East South West North
1 ♦ 1 ♦ Pass 3 ♦
Pass 4 ♦ Pass Pass
Pass

Opening lead: Five of ♦.

Entry problems are the bane of a declarer. However, careful thought and foresight will usually provide the clue to the winning line.

North had almost enough to jump to game over his partner's one spade overcall. However, his flat distribution suggested caution, so he contented himself with a jump raise — invitational, not forcing. South had the values to contract for game, and the skill to bring it home.

West led a heart, and the defenders played three rounds of the suit. Declarer ruffed the third. A seemingly simple contract began to present problems when declarer led a low trump to the

king and East showed out. The thoughtless play now would be to come to hand with the ace of diamonds and take a trump finesse, then cash the queen of spades. But declarer realized that he would then have no fast entry back to his hand to draw the last trump.

The king of clubs was surely an entry — since West had shown up with the king of hearts, East had to have the ace of clubs for his opening bid. But when declarer tried to get to hand with a club, East could rise with the ace and lead a fourth heart to promote West's jack of trumps to the setting trick.

The solution was simple. After winning the first trump in dummy, declarer immediately led a club. If East rose with the ace, it would not help to lead another heart — declarer could ruff low and, if West overruffed, he would be overruffed in dummy. The remaining trumps could then be picked up without danger of an overruff. But ducking the club proved equally futile. Declarer simply won the king, took the trump finesse and cashed the high trump in dummy. He returned to his hand with the ace of diamonds, drew the last trump, then gracefully conceded a club to the defenders. Four spades bid and made.

Entry problems are the bane of a declarer. However, careful thought and foresight will usually provide the clue to the winning line.

North had almost enough to jump to game over his partner's one spade overcall. However, his flat distribution suggested caution, so he contented himself with a jump raise — invitational, not forcing. South had the values to contract for game, and the skill to bring it home.

West led a heart, and the defenders played three rounds of the suit. Declarer ruffed the third. A seemingly simple contract began to present problems when declarer led a low trump to the

'Gandhi' director defends South African premiere

LONDON (R) — The British director of the award-winning film "Gandhi," Sir Richard Attenborough, has defended its planned premiere in South Africa before a whites only audience.

Attenborough returned to London Thursday from Los Angeles, where his film was awarded eight Oscars, to find a storm of press and political criticism brewing over his decision to attend the showing next week.

"I came to the conclusion that it is preferable to show the film, even to a segregated audience, rather than not to have shown it at all. I am convinced this is the right and proper and moral thing to do," he told reporters.

He stressed that he would also attend a screening of the same uncut version of the film for blacks in the township of Soweto, outside Johannesburg.

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, asked in Parliament Thursday to appeal to the film director not to go, replied firmly: "This is a matter for Sir Richard."

The film tells the life story of Indian leader Mahatma Gandhi, showing scenes depicting the start of his political career in South Africa fighting for the rights of Indians there.

Members of South Africa's 800,000-strong Indian community were not allowed to buy tickets for premieres organised by the IPU.

British newspapers sides Friday on whether Attenborough should attend the Johannesburg screening.

Both the right-wing Daily Mail and the Sun supported his decision to go. The Mail said the film "showed

the organisers of the Durban premiere have an application pending for a multiracial permit.

Mrs. Gandhi's daughter, Sita Dhupelia, said her mother still objected because it could be multiracial for only one special performance.

Dhupelia's father was the only one of Gandhi's four sons to return to South Africa where he ran the Phoenix settlement, an Indian cooperative founded by Gandhi, until his death a few years ago.

In one operation, police said

Friday they sealed off several areas of Palermo and detained 15 men suspected of involvement in the murder of crime boss Antonio "Nino the rich" Sorci two days ago. He was one of 12 men gunned down this week in Sicily.

The latest outbreak of gang war is thought by investigators to be linked to a feud over profits from recent million-dollar heroin trafficking deals with organised crime families in the United States.

The delegation has found Sicily's judicial structure in a state of almost total chaos, according to Italian press reports Friday.

It is undermanned, intimidated,

'Sidharta' believed adrift

SINGAPORE (R) — A German-owned yacht is believed to be drifting helplessly in the South China Sea after coming under fire near the disputed Spratly islands, official sources said Friday.

Amateur radio operators in the region had picked up signals from the 15.5-metre Sidharta indicating that at least four of the six crew were still alive, they said.

Two slow propeller-driven aircraft left Brunei this morning in search of the yacht which was believed to be partly submerged and drifting about 290 kilometre northwest of the Spratlys, they said.

The yacht, carrying German skipper Peter Marx, four amateur radio operators from Cologne and a Singapore girl, was going to establish a radio link on the islands when it reported on Sunday that it had come under attack and was on fire.

The identity of those still on board was not immediately known, the sources said.

Taiwan, Vietnam and the Philippines have military garrisons on some of the Spratly islands, about 320 kilometres from the British-protected Sultanate of Brunei. Malaysia and China have also laid claims to the islands, which are believed to have offshore oil resources.

The Sidharta did not identify the attackers, but the sources said the three governments with troops on the Spratlys had approved a request to fly over the area in search of the yacht.

The yacht also did not give its exact location in its very weak signals pleading for assistance, particularly food and water, the sources said.

The two planes were geared to drop emergency food, water and medical supplies to the yacht. "But to locate a small drifting yacht in the high seas is not an easy task," one senior official said.

"The British authorities in Brunei have offered maximum assistance," he added.

Plans were underway to send search vessels to the area if the two planes failed to find the Sidharta, he said.

Finns expell North Korean ambassador

HELSINKI (R) — North Korean ambassador Yu Jae Han was told to leave Finland after trying to bribe a Finnish politician to stop a meeting of the Interparliamentary Union (IPU) from being held in South Korea, informed sources said Friday.

The government said Thursday he had been declared persona non grata for violating Finnish law and diplomatic custom and Foreign Minister Paer Steuback said afterwards he had tried to influence a leading politician.

The sources said the ambassador had offered \$5,000 to cent Johanna Virolainen, the former speaker of the Finnish parliament and president of the IPU.

They said Bustillo left the 40-minute meeting with Magana with a clear impression that Garcia would step down or be dismissed by next Monday.

Bustillo, looking calm and com-

Junta may ask Galtieri to explain his remarks

BUENOS AIRES (R) — Argentina's ruling military junta may summon former President Leopoldo Galtieri, now under arrest, to explain his public criticism of fellow officers' conduct in the Falklands (Malvinas) War with Britain, military sources said.

The sources said the three-man junta Thursday discussed the turmoil Galtieri's remarks have caused in the armed forces.

They added that the junta was particularly irked by the impact of the ex-president's statements on Argentina's image abroad.

Galtieri, who as army commander ordered the occupation of the Falkland Islands in April last year, was arrested on Tuesday on the orders of the present commander, Gen. Cristino Nolades.

Nolades had told reporters he will personally supervise the setting up of a court of honour to decide whether Galtieri contravened military ethics in issuing the criticism in a series of newspaper interviews.

The court could order punishment ranging from a formal reprimand to expulsion from the army with loss of pay.

But the sources said Nolades might try to play down the proceedings, to prevent Galtieri causing more damage by making further charges against senior officers.

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